

# GOLD WING ROAD RIDER'S ASSOCIATION



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**OH-U2 Couple of the Year 2010**  
**Rob & Lynn Berridge**

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## Heart of Ohio Wings - Chapter OH-U2

October 2009

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## OCTOBER

10/02-04/2009	Friday-Sunday	Buckeye Time Out <i>Pastime Park, Plain City</i>
10/14/2009	Wednesday	Midweek Dinner Ride, 6:30 PM <i>Ding Ho Restaurant, West Broad &amp; Phillipi Road</i>
10/17/2009	Saturday	Annual Fall Color Ride, 9:00 AM <i>Dover, depart from east meeting point</i>
10/18/2009	Sunday	Foul Weather / Backup Date for Annual Fall Color Ride
10/24/2009 ←	Saturday	Staff Meeting, 5:30 PM <i>Pine Manor Clubhouse, Grove City</i>
10/24/2009 ←	Saturday	Monthly Gathering & Halloween Party (wear a costume), 6:30 PM <i>Pine Manor Clubhouse, Grove City - Theme Thanksgiving</i>

## NOVEMBER

11/07/09	Saturday	Ride-N-Eat, 1:00 PM, World's Best Bologna <i>G&amp;R Grill, Waldo</i>
11/08/2009	Sunday	Chapter Ride Planning Meeting for all of our 2010 activities, 2 PM <i>Roxanne's House (Bring a dessert to share)</i>
11/21/2009 ←	Saturday	Staff Meeting, 5:30 PM <i>Hilliard Memorial Middle School</i>
11/21/2009 ←	Saturday	Annual Auction, Craft and Bake Sale, 6:30 PM <i>Hilliard Memorial Middle School</i>
11/21-22/2009	Saturday-Sunday	State Officers Meeting <i>Crowne Plaza Hotel Route 161 &amp; Busch Boulevard</i>

## DECEMBER

12/05/2009	Saturday	Christmas Lights, 3:30 PM, dinner @ Digger & Finch following <i>Columbus Zoo Festival of Lights</i>
12/12/2009	Saturday	Christmas Party, 6:30 PM <i>Dutch Kitchen, 8690 US 42, Plain City</i>

← Note location of gathering

## October Birthdays

3<sup>rd</sup> Ginnie Bell  
 8<sup>th</sup> Rex Huss  
 11<sup>th</sup> Jim Ayres  
 25<sup>th</sup> Sheri Davis  
 28<sup>th</sup> Jim Funk

## October Anniversaries

19<sup>th</sup> Sue & Mike McClaskie  
 23<sup>rd</sup> John & Janet Arbogast  
 25<sup>th</sup> Jack & Cyndi Riehle

Chapter	Meeting Date	Time	Food Prior	Location	CD's #
OH-B3	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	9:00 AM	coffee & doughnuts	Obetz Community Center, 1611 Chillicothe Street, Obetz	(614) 833-4204
OH-Z2	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday	7:00 PM	dinner @ 6:00 PM	Byxbe's, 1502 W. William Street, Delaware	(614) 923-9649
OH-D3	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday		yes	Sandy's Bar & Grill, 333 Millcreek Drive, Marysville	(937) 246-3221
OH-Q2	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday	6:30 PM		6906 Old Tarlton Pike, Circleville	(740) 474-1830
OH-F3	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	7:30 PM	dinner @ 6:30 PM	Fat Cat's Pizza, 1448 Ety Pointe Drive, Lancaster	(740) 654-7156
OH-O	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday	7:00 PM	dinner @ 6:00 PM	Stacy's Buffet, 79 North to 30 <sup>th</sup> Street, then west	(740) 928-4616
OH-B2	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday	7:00 PM	potluck	Bellefontaine JVS @ The Inn	(614) 467-4524
OH-Y2	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	7:00 PM	dinner @ 6:30 PM	Papa Chuck's Restaurant, 375 Muskingum, Zanesville	(740) 453-0211
OH-U2	4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	6:30 PM	potluck	Pine Manor Clubhouse, Grove City	(614) 563-9249
OH-Y	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	7:00 PM		Groves Church of Christ, 7740 Groves Church Road, Gambier	(740) 924-4780
OH-P2	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	7:00 PM		Church of Christ & Christian Union Fellowship Hall, 770 Jefferson Avenue, Chillicothe	(740) 993-2863



Can you find the hidden image in this picture?



There is a hidden arrow in the FedEx logo, symbolizing speed and precision.

## Chapter Director

Russ Ridgeway

Where did the summer go? Our riding season is coming to a close as we observe the leaves on the trees already beginning to change colors. If the predictions I've heard are true, this year should have some great colors. So be sure to mark you calendars for the upcoming "Fall Color Ride" Saturday, October 17.

We had ten members and seven motorcycles for the Labor Day weekend riding in southern Indiana. We rode some gentle winding roads which provided an enjoyable riding experience. We visited St. Meinrad Archabbey Seminar and the Immaculate Conception Monastery known as "Castle on the Hill". Both places were very beautiful and also spiritually moving. At the Immaculate Conception Monastery Gift Shop, I purchased a very unique interpretation of the Last Supper. Our weekend was cut short due to rain, but we managed to stay ahead of the storms all the way back to Columbus.

I haven't ridden on all the Chapter rides this year, but most of them I have attended had very low participation. I realize we will never have 100% participation at our events, but it would be great to have enough participation to require splitting into multiple groups due to the number of riders. Therefore, another important date to mark on your calendar is Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, @ 2:00 PM. This is the date of our 2010 Ride Planning Meeting. Roxanne has graciously agreed to have the meeting at her house again this year. Please come with ideas for rides. The more input we have, the better schedule we can have. If you cannot attend, please feel free to forward your suggestions to anyone of staff.

~~ Let's Ride Together, Russ

## Assistant Chapter Directors

Kevin & Rosemary McBeth

This month has been good to Kevin and me in regards to getting a new bike. We could not be any happier even if we won the lottery (well maybe not the lottery). We have a new addition to our family, a beautiful 1999 Honda Valkyrie Interstate. Kevin flew to Austin, Texas, on the seller's dime to pick it up and ride it back to Ohio. It is black and chrome with 54,000+ miles and I cannot wait to take it for a ride myself. Kevin tells me it will be mine once he gets himself another used Gold Wing, which probably will not happen until I am out of school and back to work again. Good thing we are on different schedules or I would never get a chance.

On a sad note, I lost someone very near and dear to me on September 9<sup>th</sup>, who I know I will miss dearly. She was a great woman, dear friend, second mother, great mother-in-law and ex-mother-in-law. She had five kids who I am glad to say I still have good relationships with even though I am no longer part of the family. I was surprised and cried like a baby when the oldest daughter asked me to be a part of the viewing and funeral as part of the family. I was very close to my ex-mother-in-law. She was always there for others in their time of need and illustrated this commitment to others by volunteering with the Red Cross for 27 years at Aultman Hospital in Canton. I will miss you, Irene M. Skakum Stauffer, and will remember you and our time together fondly.

Remember to treasure everyone and make the time you have together the best it can be every day.

~~ Rosemary & Kevin

# Rider Education

## Russ Ridgeway

In crashes with motorcyclists, drivers often say they never saw the motorcycle. From ahead or behind, the motorcycle outline is much smaller than that of other vehicles. Also, it is difficult to see something you are not looking for, and most drivers are not looking for motorcycles. More likely, they are looking through the skinny, two wheeled silhouette in search of cars that may pose a problem to them.

Even if a driver does see you coming, you are not necessarily safe. Smaller vehicles appear farther away and seem to be traveling slower than they actually are. It is common for drivers to pull out in front of motorcyclists, thinking they have plenty of time. Too often, they are wrong. You can do many things to make it easier for others to see you and your motorcycle:

**Clothing:** Most crashes occur in broad daylight. Wear bright-colored clothing to increase your chances of being seen. Remember, your body is half of the visible surface area of the rider/motorcycle unit. Bright orange, red, yellow or green jackets or vests are your best bets for being seen. Your helmet can do more than protect you in a crash. Brightly colored helmets also may help others see you. Any bright color is better than drab or dark colors. Reflective, bright-colored clothing (helmet and jacket or vest) is best. Reflective material on a vest and on the sides of the helmet will help drivers spot you from the side. Reflective material can also be a big help for drivers coming toward you or from behind.

**Headlight:** The best way to help others see your motorcycle is to keep the headlight on at all times (motorcycles sold in the U.S. since 1978, automatically have the headlights on). Use of the high beam during the day increases the likelihood that oncoming drivers will see you. Use the low beam at night and in cloudy weather.

**Signals:** The signals on a motorcycle are similar to those on a car. They tell others what you plan to do. Due to a rider's added vulnerability, however, signals are even more important. Use them anytime you plan to change lanes or turn. Use them even when you think no one else is around. It's the car you don't see that is going to give you the most trouble. Your signal lights also make you easier to spot. That is why it is a good idea to use your turn signals even when what you plan to do is obvious.

When you enter a freeway, drivers approaching from behind are more likely to see your signal blinking and make room for you. Turning on your signal light before each turn reduces confusion and frustration for traffic around you. Once you turn, make sure your signal is off, or a driver may pull directly into your path thinking you plan to turn again. Use your signals at every turn so drivers can react accordingly. Do not make them guess what you intend to do.

**Brake Light:** The brake light on a motorcycle is not as noticeable as the brake lights on a car, particularly when the taillight is on (it comes on with the headlight). If the situation permits, help others notice you by flashing your brake light before you slow down. It is especially important to flash your brake light before you:

- Slow more quickly than others might expect (turning off a high-speed highway).
- Slow where others may not expect it (in the middle of a block or at an alley).

If someone is following closely, it is a good idea to flash your brake light before

you slow. The tailgater may be watching you and not see something ahead that could cause you to slow down. This will hopefully discourage them from tailgating and warn them of hazards ahead they may not see.

**Using Your Mirrors:** While it is most important to scan what is happening ahead, you cannot afford to ignore situations behind. Traffic conditions change quickly. Knowing what is going on behind is essential for you to make a safe decision about how to handle trouble ahead. Frequent mirror checks should be part of your normal scanning routine. Make a point of using your mirrors:

- **When stopped at an intersection** (watch cars coming from behind. If the driver is not paying attention, he/she could be on top of you before they see you).
- **Before changing lanes** (make sure no one is about to pass you).
- **Before slowing down** (the driver behind may not expect you to slow, or could be unsure where you will slow; if you signal a turn and the driver thinks you plan to turn at a distant intersection, rather than at a nearer driveway).

Some motorcycles have rounded (convex) mirrors. These provide a wider view of the road behind than flat mirrors. They also make vehicles seem farther away than they really are. If you are not used to convex mirrors, get familiar with them. While you are stopped, pick out a parked car in your mirror, form a mental image of how far away it is, then turn around and look to see how close you came. Practice with your mirrors until you become a good judge of distance. Even then, allow extra distance before you change lanes.

**Head Checks:** Checking your mirrors is not enough. Motorcycles have "blind spots" like other vehicles. Before changing lanes, turn your head and look to the side for other vehicles. On a road with several lanes, check the far lane and the one next to you. A driver in the distant lane may head for the same space you plan to take. Frequent head checks should be your normal scanning routine. Only by knowing what is happening all around you are you fully prepared to deal with a compromising situation.

**Horn:** Be ready to use the horn to get someone's attention quickly. It is a good idea to give a quick beep before passing anyone who may move into your lane. Following are some situations:

- A driver in the lane next to you is driving too closely to the vehicle ahead and may want to pass.
- A parked car has someone in the driver's seat.
- Someone is in the street, riding a bicycle or walking.

In an emergency, press the horn button loud and long. Be ready to stop or swerve away from the danger. Keep in mind that a motorcycle horn is not as loud as a car, therefore, use it, but don't rely on it. Other strategies may be appropriate along with the horn.

**Riding at Night:** At night it is harder for you to see and be seen. Picking your headlight or taillight out of the car lights around you is not easy for other drivers. To compensate:

- **Reduce Your Speed** — Ride even slower than you would during the day, particularly on roads you do not know well. This will increase your chances of avoiding a hazard.
- **Increase Distance** — Distances are harder to judge at night than during the day. Your eyes rely upon shadows and light contrasts to determine how far away an object is and how fast it is coming. These contrasts are missing or distorted under artificial lights at night. Open up your following distance and allow more distance to pass and be passed.
- **Use the Car Ahead** — The headlights of the car ahead can give you a better view of the road than even your high beam. Taillights bouncing up and down can alert you to rough pavement.
- **Use Your High Beam** — Get all the light you can. Use your high beam whenever you are not following or meeting a car.
- **Be Flexible About Lane Position** — Change to whatever portion of the lane is best to help you see, be seen and keep an adequate space cushion.
- **Be Visible** — Wear reflective materials when riding at night.

## Membership Enhancement Division

### Terry Woodbury

September is coming to an end. October is around the corner with the changing of the leaves (red, gold, brown, and yellow). A number of nice rides are coming up to see all these colors. Make sure you have some membership applications with you on these rides.

Membership Recruitment processes are highly visible and relatively well known throughout the Association. GWRRA recruiters attend major GWRRA events, other motorcycle oriented events and industry trade shows offering GWRRA membership information and application encouragement and assistance. The Find-A-Friend, membership renewal and other major award programs that reward current members for recruiting new members are well known and important tools in the recruiting process. Every issue of the Wing World Magazine contains a membership application and renewal form that members can copy and offer to friends and acquaintances.

The membership retention process, on the other hand, has not been as well defined and promoted. The purpose of this paper is to define a process for membership retention that, when applied at the chapter and district levels of GWRRA, can lead to an improvement in the overall growth rate of the Association through a reduction in the numbers of members lost to non-renewal of expired memberships.

Remember, anyone that rides a motorcycle can join GWRRA. Have a Wing World Magazine so you can show them what is going on in GWRRA.

**Remember, "Every One Matters"**

~~ Your MEC, Terry

## Dealer Liaison

**Rob & Lynn Berridge**

If you like crooked roads and great scenery, but don't have time to travel to Norway, do we have a place for you! Western North Carolina is awesome. Get out a map if you want to follow along. Most of the roads in the area are like the Dragon and Cherohala Skyway except longer. If you are in the area, we would recommend state route 28 (about 25 miles long with a bazillion curves and no traffic). County road 1310 is also good but not as well paved as route 28. Route 64 from Franklin to Brevard is a very intense ride. There is a sign at the beginning of this road that warns "no semi trucks---sharp curves and narrow pavement". This road is more for scenery than peg dragging--there is more traffic, the road is very narrow, the curves are very sharp but the pavement is good. Don't charge onto this road the way you would the Dragon or you may find yourself coming around a blind curve with a VW Beetle putting along at 15 mph and no place to go. If you ride this route, travel over it a couple of times to familiarize yourself with its quirks. Route 107 from Cashiers north is a great road also, but has more traffic. The pavement on this road is excellent.

The entire area, Graham County, also has a bunch of waterfalls. One of these is on Route 64. When the road was built a long time ago, the road actually went under the falls! The old road is now a pull off. You can get a great picture of your bike sitting under the waterfall. While in the area you can ride the southern part of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Spend a day in the Pisgah National Forrest (great roads and little traffic).

This fall when the leaves change would be a great time to go.

~~ Rob and Lynn

# Newsletter Editor

**Roxanne Shull**

So I thought of a few more things to share with you about the trip to Sweden and Norway.....

We were traveling on a road with an incredibly steep incline and came upon something interesting..... a tunnel that actually circled around on itself in spiral fashion. Russ showed it to me on the map and we couldn't for life of ourselves figure out what it was. Russ made a guess and ended up being correct. It kind of snuck up on us and I didn't have to time to prepare for going around in a circle. It was a pretty tight tunnel too.

On one of our many day trips in the rain we were traveling on a curvy road with an incredibly steep decline. Russ was leading and Hans-Erik was the tail gunner. We found ourselves following a very slow vehicle and Russ decided we should pass as conditions permitted. Russ passed at about the same time we were coming upon 2 bicyclists, and 2 vehicles were approaching us from behind. At one point this is how we were lined up: Russ, a 4 wheel vehicle, me, the 2 bicyclists, Hans-Erik, and the two 4 wheel vehicles. I would like for you to picture this line up in the pouring rain, on a steep, curvy decline..... ya got it??? Now I will fess up and humiliate myself by admitting to you that both of the bicyclists went flying by me like I was sitting still. If it hadn't been so miserable I would probably would have laughed and fallen off the bike.

Another thing I forgot to mention last month is the fact we went through a tunnel that had entrance and exit ramps. The first time a vehicle entered the tunnel on our right I was thinking where the heck did he come from since we're in the slow lane. Then we had to take the next exit and they tend to be relatively sharp turns inside the tunnels. Not so much fun in the darkness, with sunglasses on.

I hope everyone is enjoying the cooler weather and looking forward to the approaching Fall. I already know several of you are pooping out on the Fall Color Ride, but I hope the rest of you will come out and enjoy the ride and the fellowship we always have when we're together.

~~ Chat with you soon, Rox

## REMINDERS

DATE: Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>  
 TIME: 2:00 PM  
 LOCATION: Roxanne's house  
 SUBJECT: **Ride Planning Meeting for 2010**

Please plan to come and participate in the dates, times, locations, etc., for our 2010 ride schedule. Bring a dessert to share, Roxanne will be making a big pot of some sort of soup. You can vote on what kind if you're interested, just let me know.

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DATE: Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>  
 TIME: 6:30 PM  
 LOCATION: Hilliard Memorial Middle School  
 SUBJECT: **Chapter Auction, Craft & Bake Sale**

Make your favorite desserts, crafts, or purchase items for the annual chapter auction. This is our one fund raiser for the year and an opportunity to meet GWRRA members from other chapters around the state.

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DATE: Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>  
 TIME: 3:30 PM  
 LOCATION: Columbus Zoo  
 SUBJECT: **Festival of Lights**

We will meet at the Columbus Zoo early this year to experience the wonderful lights and start the Christmas season. After our visit to the Zoo we will meet at Digger and Finch on Riverside Drive for dinner.

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DATE: Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>  
 TIME: 6:30 PM  
 LOCATION: Dutch Kitchen, US 42, Plain City  
 SUBJECT: **Chapter Christmas Party**

\$10 for chapter members and \$15 for non-members. Reservations should be made no later than the Chapter Auction. Dave Leitch will be sending an email.

